

constrain citizens' Constitutional rights, but has vital importance to our nation's economy in this era of furious, global competition in technology.

I find the manner with which this bill was brought to the House floor unacceptable. The fundamental right of a person to his or her intellectual property lies at stake in this situation. This is not a bill which should be passed without meaningful, in-depth investigation and debate. Far from a lengthy, informed process, H.R. 1907 make its way to this chamber following a slippery, silent path which featured name changes, number changes, unpublished documents, and finally, this evening, an unpublished bill, finished only minutes before being called up for approval. This is deplorable. Why must this bill be taken up in such a circuitous way? If it is a wonderful piece of legislation that protects the rights of the small inventor, why is it not open to more than the minimum debate and why can't we hold hearings on this final version, whose ink is not yet dry?

The Judiciary Committee marked up H.R. 1907 without the benefit of hearings; providing no public forum for the stakeholders involved. This stark omission comes despite extensive controversy surrounding this issue in the 105th Congress. There is no published committee report on H.R. 1907 and, until this evening, this House was scheduled to consider a patent bill almost half the length of H.R. 1907. I was expecting to debate H.R. 2654, and was shocked to find that H.R. 1907 was resurrected and had usurped its place. This is an appalling way to manage legislation embodying such an expansive scope and consequences.

H.R. 1907 provides for the publication of patent applications before the patent is granted if the inventor also applies for a patent in a foreign country. This leaves open the possibility that large companies may prey on the unprotected ideas of the small inventor between the time of publication and patent approval. This type of situation needs to be brought to a public forum, discussed among many members, not just the few speaking tonight. I am deeply distressed by this lack of opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's founders designed our society to be a land of unfettered opportunity where individual rights are zealously protected and elected officials considered future laws of the land in a public forum. Both of these ideals are jeopardized by this legislation. H.R. 1907 places at risk the right to enjoy the benefits generated by a person's ingenuity and innovative ideas. Without this right, we strangle the incentive for people to create and develop vital products and services which could improve our daily lives and bolster our economy. This subject matter deserves lengthy consideration, substantial debate, and open discussion, not a quick, suspension vote after a whirlwind visit to Committee.

IN TRIBUTE TO JERRY L.  
GLADDEN

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend Jerry L. Gladden, who will re-

tire this month after 30 years, 1 month, 2 weeks and 6 days with the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District.

For more than 20 years, Jerry has served as general manager for the district and clerk of the board, leading the district capably and efficiently through several financial crises as he continued to see that Simi Valley and Oak Park, California, has superb parks and recreational programs.

Jerry has contributed to the community in many other ways as well. He was president of the Simi Valley Noontime Lions Club from 1976 to 1977. Since 1979, he has been a member of the Simi Valley Rotary Club, for which he has chaired several committees. He is a former member of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce and served on the United Way Allocations Committee for seven years.

But Jerry's greatest legacy will be the recreational opportunities he created and maintained.

A general manager's greatest challenge is to keep his agency solvent. When money became tight, Jerry helped form the Rancho Simi Foundation, a non-profit organization with the responsibility of raising funds to help support recreation programs. He pushed for a continuing grant program, which has brought in more than \$6.2 million to the Park District during the past 25 years. He is responsible for establishing a lease/operator concession program that generates more than \$1 million for the district each year. He also found ways to cut insurance premiums for the district.

In addition, Jerry established a volunteer program with a core of more than 200 volunteers who clear trails, clean parks, perform clerical work and help run youth programs. He also established a fundraising program that has raised more than \$40,000 in cash and gifts to help support special events for Simi Valley's youth.

Apparently he had too much time on his hands and accepted the position of chief administrative officer for the Rancho Simi Open Space Conservation Agency, a joint powers authority between the Park District and the City of Simi Valley. The agency manages Corriganville Park, an old-time movie ranch that was the model for present-day Universal Studios.

Not surprisingly, Jerry has won numerous awards for his hard work, dedication and success.

Jerry and his wife, Donna, have three children and four grandchildren. When time permits, he enjoys woodworking and restoring cars. He is also still learning to golf. It is unknown if more time on the greens will actually improve his game.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Jerry L. Gladden for his decades of dedicated service and in wishing him and his family Godspeed in his retirement. His dedication to recreational opportunities will be difficult for the Park District to replace.

JUDICIAL CORRUPTION IN  
ARGENTINA

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following testimony of Dr. Federico Westerkamp,

founder of the Center for Legal and Social Studies.

JULY 22, 1999.

To the members of Congress: Rep. TOM LANTOS, Rep. ERIC FALEOMAVAEGA, Rep. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

First of all, thank you very much for inviting me, as a founding member of the Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) of Buenos Aires, to act as a witness in this Members Briefing on Judicial Corruption in Argentina.

In my view, the judiciary of my country is in a delicate state. Charges of corruption have proliferated in the last years. Several judges are under legal processes although they move with the certain slowness. Various judges are currently under close scrutiny. Some of them are being submitted to the so called impeachment under the old system where the House of Representatives makes the accusation and the Senate decides if removal is fitting or not.

With few exceptions, mainly for ethical corruption, the system of impeachment failed and the new 1995 constitution replaced with the Council of the Magistracy, a method which just recently started. Many hopes have been placed on the new system, which in its first cases will show whether or not it will fulfill the hopes of the citizenry.

There are some courts which have being charged of prevarication, abuse of authority, bad fulfillment of the public functions and ideological falsehood. These are the most common charges against the bad judges, and we hope that the Council of Magistracies proceeds with decision and courage so that the new institution does not fail.

In the last decade one case has precisely demonstrated the three categories already mentioned and I do not hesitate signaling that it is the case of the three judges: Mariano Bergers, Roberto Murature and Julio Caesar Corvalan de la Colina, who have all acted as lower court judges in the case of the Buenos Aires Yoga School (BAYS). The case was initiated in December 1993 under the command of the first judge named above, storming the school headquarters and also various private properties of their members, and putting two distinguished ladies in prison without any proof of having committed any crime; on the contrary, all charges against the yoga school were unproved and all the noisy campaign of the court, full of false accusations and with lavishness of false information, created a sense of hysteria in the population of the country, which incredulous, did not know whether to believe or disbelieve the information from the judge, his secretary and various employees and chaperones.

The authorities of the Yoga School were threatened with imprisonment. Former judge Berges pronounced serious anti-Semitic expressions against the president of BAYS Dr. Percowicz, and several of his advisors wrote similar expressions on the walls during the searches.

As time passed and the facts appeared in the real image, many people—myself among them—realized that everything was a bluff, probably due to the ideological background of the court, and as the truth began to be revealed, the public began to disbelieve the charges against the whole Yoga school, including its students. Judge Berges opted for giving up the case, as he knew that the House Impeachment Committee was going to accuse him before the Senate, in order to remove him.

A new lower court judge, Roberto Murature took over; the campaign against the Yoga school was still promoted, but at this time it was obvious that the process was weakening, so the second judge was relieved